

VZCZCXYZ0003  
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHRK #0089 0751715  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 161715Z MAR 06  
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2632

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 000089

SIPDIS

SIPDIS  
DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/IR AND DRL

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [SOCI](#) [IR](#) [IC](#)  
SUBJECT: ICELANDIC STATEMENT ON AKBAR GANGI: ONLY IN  
COORDINATION WITH EU

REF: STATE 42097

Post presented reftel request (for a statement calling for the release of Iranian journalist Akbar Ganji) to Icelandic MFA Head of International Institutions Division Nikulas Hannigan March 16. Hannigan stated that the Government of Iceland does not have a tradition of making statements on individual foreign affairs issues. Typically, it will align itself with European Union statements, as it did with a November 2005 EU declaration dealing with the issue of Iranian political prisoners. Hannigan said he had asked his colleagues in Brussels to watch for an EU request to join in making a statement on Ganji and that Iceland would probably sign on if one were forthcoming.

VAN VOORST